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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/941,592	08/30/2001	Hisao Tajima	862.C2394	6415

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EXAMINER

LEE, MICHAEL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2614

DATE MAILED: 04/07/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/941,592

Applicant(s)

TAJIMA, HISAO

Examiner

M. Lee

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 August 2001.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 1-13 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claims 1, 10-13, the term "said plurality of mounting positions" lacks proper antecedent basis.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-4, 6, 9-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Martin et al. (5,769,374).

Regarding claim 1, Martin discloses an apparatus for mounting a computer peripheral device, such as a video camera (col. 3, lines 36-46), at selectively variable locations on a display monitor showing an image display apparatus 30 which include connecting electrodes (62), peripheral devices (36) which also include connecting

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electrodes (62), and a guide 32 for forming a path when the mounting positions of the peripheral devices on the image display apparatus are moved. The electrodes in the display monitor and the electrodes in the peripheral devices are placed in contact with their respective electrodes. In other words, the electrical cables 62 connect the display monitor and the peripheral devices together through some electrical connector means.

Regarding claim 2, the groove 32 meets the guide or rail as claimed.

Regarding claim 3, the groove 32 is located at the display monitor 36.

Regarding claim 4, as illustrated in Figure 3, the electrical cables are placed along parallel with the groove 32.

Regarding claim 6, see Figure 1. The screen size of the monitor is intended to be in any size.

Regarding claims 9-13, see similar reasons as recited above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Martin et al. (5,769,374) in view of Mouchi (4,676,567).

Regarding claim 5, Martin does not specify that at least part of the guide also serves as the first electrode as claimed. Mouchi, from the similar field of endeavor, teaches a track mounted fixture which can be used for mounting video cameras (col. 3,

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lines 31-34). As illustrated in Figure 1, Mouchi shows that electrical conductors or electrodes 23-25 are functioned as guide rail for contact electrode members 8 and 9. Since Mouchi suggests that the track mounted fixture can be used with a video camera and knowing that the video camera in Martin glides on a groove or track similar to that of Mouchi, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to include Mouchi into Martin so that the dangling and unsightly cables 62 can be avoided.

7. Claims 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Martin et al. (5,769,374).

Regarding claim 7, Martin does not specify the first or second electrode has a spherical shape. In any event, it is well known that electrical connectors or electrodes come with many different shapes. Spherical is just one of them. The selection of the shape of the electrodes would have been considered an obvious design choice. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to utilize spherical shaped electrodes as the electrical connectors in Martin to perform the well known functions as claimed.

Regarding claim 8, the electrodes or electrical connectors are inherently insulated with elastic materials such as plastic.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Smith, II (5,768,163) shows a video camera 12.

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Stunkel et al. (6,481,681) shows a mounting means 10.

Chou et al. (6,416,239) shows a video camera.

Verstockt et al. (6,239,841) shows a clamping means.

Ganthier et al. (6,081,422) shows a video camera mount.

Chang (5,831,817) shows a track 200.

Booty (4,533,190) shows a sliding track.

Shen (5,341,276) shows a track light with sliding track.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to M. Lee whose telephone number is **703-305-4743**.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **John Miller**, can be reached at **703-305-4795**.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.



M. Lee
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2614

April 1, 2004